



## THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY: PROMOTING NONPROLIFERATION

“As we re-engage the international system, we will address the existential threat posed by nuclear weapons.”

– President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
*Interim National Security Strategic Guidance*

### NONPROLIFERATION

Since its entry into force in 1970, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) has served as the cornerstone of the nuclear nonproliferation regime and proven essential to international security. Articles I, II, and III of the Treaty seek to prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons, including by requiring non-nuclear-weapon States Parties to accept International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards to verify that nuclear material is not diverted to nuclear weapons purposes, and establishing a link between safeguards and export controls.

### CHALLENGES

The NPT has faced serious challenges from cases of States Parties violating their nonproliferation obligations. The United States plays a leading role in the effort to ensure that the international community responds to cases of NPT and safeguards noncompliance and provides the IAEA with necessary resources and political support. In addition to proliferation challenges posed by states, non-state actors have been involved in illicit nuclear trade and expressed concerning interest in nuclear material, technology, and weapons. The United States works closely with our partners to strengthen our shared security by addressing the full range of nonproliferation threats, including that of nuclear terrorism. Only by working together can we make the nonproliferation regime more resilient against challenges in the future.

### COOPERATIVE U.S. ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN NONPROLIFERATION SINCE 2015

- Working to strengthen IAEA safeguards and ensure that the Agency has the necessary resources to fulfill its safeguards mandate, including by pledging more than \$232 million in extra-budgetary and in-kind support to the Department of Safeguards.
- Supporting the professionalism, objectivity and independence of the IAEA.
- Promoting the combination of a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol – with a modified Small Quantities Protocol, when applicable, as the *de facto* standard for achieving NPT safeguards goals and assuring NPT obligations are met.

**U.S. DELEGATION TO THE  
TENTH NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

- Maintaining rigorous nuclear export controls, working to strengthen nuclear export control regimes, and assisting states to implement regime requirements and secure borders.
- Supporting ratification of the relevant protocols to the Central Asia, South Pacific and African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone (NWFZ) Treaties.
- Working with the international community to achieve the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the return of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the NPT and IAEA safeguards.
- Working with P5+1 partners and the IAEA on a return by the United States and Iran to mutual compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and on addressing international concerns regarding Iran's nuclear program, including its lack of cooperation with the IAEA on its safeguards obligations.
- Seeking to address Syrian noncompliance with its NPT and IAEA safeguards obligations.
- Promoting inclusive, consensus-based dialogue among all the regional states on efforts to advance a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.
- Highlighting the need for NPT States Parties to adopt principles to discourage Parties from withdrawing from the Treaty.
- Supporting the efforts of the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee and other multilateral efforts to combat illicit nuclear trafficking and nuclear terrorism, including the Proliferation Security Initiative, and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

For more than 50 years, the NPT has made our world safer and more prosperous, and all States Parties continue to reap its benefits. We must continue to work together to preserve and strengthen the nuclear nonproliferation regime for future generations. The United States stands ready to work with all our partners to ensure a safer world for everyone, and to lead the way on addressing the existential threat posed by further proliferation of nuclear weapons.

For more information, visit [www.state.gov/tenth-npt-review-conference](http://www.state.gov/tenth-npt-review-conference). Connect with us on Twitter (@StateISN, @USNPT) and on [Facebook](#).